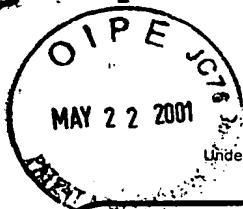


05-2401

RCE/2700\$



PTO/SB/30 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/110,103
Filing Date	July 1, 1998
First Named Inventor	Michael C. Powers
Group Art Unit	2163
Examiner Name	A. Teitelbaum
Attorney Docket Number	019143.0272

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

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MAY 30 2001

Technology Center 2100

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months.
(Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.117(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

- The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees or deficiency in these fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. _____
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$710.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as U.S. Express Mail #EL759179382US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print / Type)	Willie Jiles
Signature	Willie Jiles
Date	May 22, 2001

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

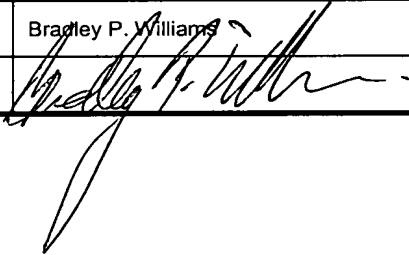
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FEE CALCULATION SHEET						
CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Basic Rate						\$710.00
Total Claims	17	-	20	=	x \$18 =	
Independent Claims	3	-	3	=	x \$80 =	
Total Fees						\$710.00
Less 50% for Small Entity						
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS RCE						\$710.00

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print / Type)	Bradley P. Williams	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,227
Signature		Date	5/22/01